

MEDIA ACCESS OFFICE NEWS

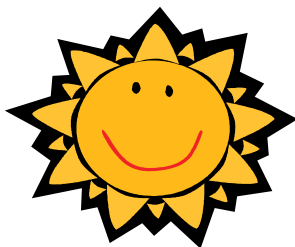


Disability Resource to the Entertainment Industry

M.A.O. MEMBER APPEARANCES

Codes:

AL-Leg Amputee B-Blind
CP-Cerebral Palsy D-Deaf
DD-Developmental Disability
Ds-Down syndrome
HI-Hearing Impaired
ID-Invisible Disability
LP-Little Person MI-Mobility Impaired O-Other
PWD-Performers With Disabilities
VI-Visually Impaired WU-Wheelchair User



M.A.O. MEMBERS AND OTHER KNOWN PWD WHO ARE SERIES REGULARS/RECURRING

Michael J. Anderson (LP) as Samson
"Carnivale" - HBO

Deanne Bray (D) as Sue Thomas
"Sue Thomas F.B. Eye" - PAX

Robert David Hall (AL) as Coroner Dr. Robbins
"CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" - CBS

Anita Hollander (AL) as Shelley
"All My Children" - ABC

Geri Jewell (CP)
"Deadwood" - as Jewel - HBO and

"The Young & the Restless" - as Rose - CBS

Mitch Longley (WU) as Barry "Bear" Caldwell
"Joan of Arcadia" - CBS

and as Surveillance Team Member Mitch
"Las Vegas" - NBC

'Regulars' Bios

Michael J. Anderson is an American actor who is a dwarf, having a genetic bone condition that rendered him unable to walk until he was in his twenties. He is three feet, seven inches tall. He was born October 31, 1953 in Denver, Colorado. Anderson is probably best known for his role in David Lynch's television series, *Twin Peaks*, despite only appearing in a handful of episodes. His character, the Little Man From Another Place, is a small backwards-speaking man dressed in a red suit who first appears in perhaps the most well-known scene of the entire series: Special Agent Dale Cooper's cryptic dream about the murder of Laura Palmer, set in a mysterious red room.

Anderson learned the strange skill of talking backwards while attending a school for exceptional children.

Anderson also appeared in *Fire Walk With Me*, Lynch's film prequel to *Twin Peaks*. Probably his most unusual role was that of Mr. Roque in Lynch's *Mulholland Dr.*, in which Anderson played a regular-sized man, requiring the use of a prosthetic body.

Prior to his acting career, Anderson was a computer specialist for Martin-Marietta. He was also once the leader of a band called "Wayward Gene and the Natural Selection" that played in various New York clubs.

He is currently appearing as Samson in the HBO series *Carnivale*. Samson runs the carnival and is a con man with integrity. There's no one better at finding ways to fleece the customers, and no one more respected by the carnies themselves. Samson has seen many strange and wondrous things in his time, most of them frauds perpetuated by himself and his people. Once a sideshow performer, he was elevated to his present position by management.

[Note: 'Regulars' Bios is an ongoing feature spotlighting those PWDs who have recurring or regular roles on television. Material is either derived from the actors themselves or official web sites.]

THEATRE APPEARANCES

 'The Storm is Over'

Where: West Angeles Theatre, 3020 Crenshaw.

Reservations/Info: (323) 733-8707

When: Aug. 14-15.

M.A.O. member **Johnny Cox (AL)** is the producer/director and writer of this gospel play, a revision of his script, which was produced last Nov.

Congratulations to M.A.O. Members

M.A.O. Member **Lisa Zion (MI)** for being cast in the independent films "*Confessions of a Catholic Call Girl*", and "*Woman's Work*". **Rosi Reed (MI)**, for her

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performance at the **Clean Comedy** showcase in L.A. on 7/11. **Dawn Grabowski (MI)**, who just completed filming an indie entitled "**Heart of the Beholder**", and the pilot of Jenny McCarthy's new show, **Bad Girl's Guide** for UPN. **Linda Storey (WU)**, for her concert appearance at an MS fundraiser in Colorado on 8/12. New M.A.O. member **Amy Purdy (AL)** for being cast in a lead role in the indie film "**What's Bugging Seth**". **Kitty Kavey (O)** for working as an extra on the TV show "**Charmed**", and filming a featured role in the film "**Cruel Summer**". **Darrell Rutlin (MI)** for his work in the indie film, "**Fossor's Mirror**", shooting in St. Louis. **Michael Kameron (O)** for landing a leading role in the indie film "**Brain Fart**". **Tristan Thunderbolt (D)** for being hired as the Business Director for Kaiser Hospital's Education Theatre division, and also for the full-page feature article on him in **Theatre Bay Area** magazine. **Evelyna Castro (O/WU)** for being accepted into Foothill College's Theatre Conservatory program.

Reminder to M.A.O. Members – We would like to have your appearances in film, television & theatre mentioned in the newsletter in a **timely** fashion. Please email DGordy@edd.ca.gov with your info by the *third week of the month prior to the month in which you will appear*.

MAO Drama Class Graduation Performance

Christina Kokubo's 12 week Wednesday drama class will have its last session Wednesday, August 4th from 1 - 3 PM at Media Access. The graduation performance for friends, family and M.A.O. members will be Wednesday, August 11th from 1 - 3 PM at the Avery Schreiber Theater, located at 11050 Magnolia Blvd. (1/2 block west of Vineland) in N. Hollywood, 91601. Light refreshments will be served.

HOLLYWOOD NETWORKING BREAKFAST 11th Anniversary Celebration

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER is TBA, but there will be door prizes from past supporters, **Final Draft, Studio Systems, Backstage, Flash Forward, Brian Reise Acting Studios, Hollywood Creative Directory, Action! Cut! Directed By...**, **Hollywood Global Entertainment Network** and others.

Thursday, August 26, 2004, 8 AM-10:30 AM. Wyndham Bel Age Hotel, 1020 N. San Vicente, West Hollywood, CA 90069. Check-in starts at 7:20 AM. On-time reservations: **\$25.00** per person. **Checks must be postmarked by Aug. 19**, to be considered "on-time". Make checks payable to: **Changing Images In America, P.O. Box 2688, Hollywood, CA 90078. (310) 477-0996**, ext. 3. Your check is your confirmation. You **MUST** list your contact phone number and the names of all guests who are included on your check. For additional Breakfast Guidelines and policies, including late reservations and walk-ins, go to: www.changingimagesinamerica.org.

Also: On **September 11th & 12th** the **Hollywood Networking Breakfast** and **Hollywood Global Entertainment Network (HGEN)** members can attend an information-packed, in-depth and highly entertaining seminar on independent feature film production. This is the full-length version of the seminar **Kurt Inderbitzin** gave to rave reviews before a packed house at the June 24th Hollywood Networking Breakfast. In this intensive, 2-day event being held at the Holiday Inn Universal Studios in Los Angeles, seasoned producers, casting directors and attorneys will share their insider knowledge on how to finance, produce, market and sell an independent feature film. For more info and prices, go to: www.indiefilmseminars.com/story.html.

A Very Special Film

Academy Award Winner Billy Bob Thornton provides the introduction to the documentary **GIVEN A CHANCE...A Little Girl's Journey**. This documentary focuses on the adoption of 'special needs' children and chronicles the development of M.A.O. Member **Kassie Marriner**, drug addicted at birth and diagnosed with cerebral palsy. Kassie narrates the documentary and provides the answer to the question, "Who wants to adopt a child with a disability?" **Given A Chance...A Little Girl's Journey** is dedicated in loving memory to John Ritter who played an important role in this Kassie's journey.' John, his brother M.A.O. Member **Tom Ritter**, Henry Winkler, Nancy Dussault, Tiffani Thiessen and others provide additional inspiration. Recording artist Billy Gilman adds his special touch with the highly honored song "There's A Hero." **GIVEN A CHANCE** received the SPECIAL JURY PRIZE at the 2003 Fort Lauderdale Film Festival, and was a finalist in the AFI PERSPECTIVES FILM AWARDS 2004. For more information about the film and where it is playing PLEASE CONTACT: Tami Lynn, Executive Producer at 818-888-8264 (office) or check the websites at: www.givenachance.com and <http://community.webtv.net/tamilynn/TAMILYNNSWEBPAGE/index.html>.

ATTENTION SCREENWRITERS

SHORT FILM SCRIPTS BY WOMEN SOUGHT: Executive Director of Ability Arts Andy Shreeman is seeking 6-12 page narrative screenplays written by women for her to direct. Please submit with a 1-page cover letter introducing the writer that includes contact information. Scripts will be chosen by length, budget (modest is best), dramatic merit and depth of characters - comedies are okay, but must be rooted in story. Submission deadline is September 15th, 2004. MAIL TO: ShreeWoman, 11700 National Boulevard #117, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

August 2004

2004 Acting Scholarship Competition & Preparation Class

M.A.O. MEMBERS ADULT & YOUNG PERFORMERS:

It's time to start preparation for the upcoming acting scholarship opportunity, which will be taking place on September 18 at the Media Access Office in North Hollywood. Call 818/752-1196 to ask for an application, which is due back by August 16th. To participate, you will need to prepare a scene (with a partner of your choice) or a monologue of no longer than 3 minutes. You will also need to provide a 250-word Bio and 250-word Letter of Intent, as to what you would do with the scholarship money if you won. Scholarship amounts will vary from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

And for the first time, our extraordinary teachers, **Laura Gardner** and **David Zimmerman** will be teaching a class together, focusing on perfecting scenes for the competition. If you will be competing for the acting scholarships and need help polishing your scene, sign-up for their class. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, August 11th, 2pm – 5pm or 7pm - 9pm at the Media Access Office. To sign-up call (818) 752-1196. The class is free of charge.

Attention M.A.O./S.A.G. Members!

The National Arts and Disability Center [NADC] at UCLA is conducting a survey to collect information about the employment of performers with disabilities in film and television. Specifically they are gathering information about auditions and getting work, the hiring process and barriers to employment. This survey is being conducted by the NADC on behalf of the Screen Actors Guild and PWD Committee and is funded by the IACF.

Only SAG members who have self identified as performers with disabilities on the Special Skills and Talent Survey form will receive a copy of the survey. Make sure your form with SAG is up to date!

Looking for information about us?
Get more info about the work of the *Friends of the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, Inc.* and the Media Access Office at:
www.disabilityemployment.org

EDD Employment
Development
Department
State of California

SAVE THE DATE!

The 22nd Media Access Awards

Saturday, October 23, 2004

**THE HIGHLANDS
(at Hollywood & Highland)
HOLLYWOOD, CA**



**For ticket information call
(310) 388-4668**

*Do you have information for the Newsletter?
Write, phone or fax us at:*

The Media Access Office
4640 Lankershim Blvd., Suite 305
N. Hollywood, CA 91602
(818) 752-1196 Voice (818) 753-3426 Fax
(818) 753-3427 TTY

Media Access Office – North
363 Civic Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 602-1542 Voice (925)-602-1540 Fax
711 for CA Relay Service

REACH US VIA E-MAIL:

Gloria M. Castañeda – GCastane@edd.ca.gov
(Send Gloria an e-mail if you would like to receive last minute M.A.O. information or announcements via email.)

Dr. Douglas Gordy (M.A.O. North) – DGordy@edd.ca.gov

The Media Access Office is staffed by the Employment Development Department and the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Volunteers and in-kind donations through the Friends of the CGCEPD, Inc. support the office.❖

August 2004



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State of California

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Labor and Workforce Development Agency

Herb K. Schultz
Acting Director
Employment Development Department

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**California Governor's Committee on Employment
Of People with Disabilities**

Catherine Kelly Baird
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